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SOVIET PLANTS FAIL TO PRODUCE TRACTOR SPARE PARTS

Many enterprises of Glavtraktorprom (Main Administration of the Tractor Industry) which produce spare parts for tractors and agricultural machines have successfully fulfilled their 1953 production plans.

The Khar'kov Tractor Plant has fulfilled its production plan ahead of schedule and has built many above-plan tractors. The plant has also been very successful in producing high-quality spare parts for tractors.

The Tambov Plant imeni L. M. Kaganovich, the Noginsk Fuel Equipment Plant, and the Khar'kov Porshen' (Piston) Plant have exceeded their 1953 production plans for spare parts for tractors and agricultural machines.

However, there are still very many enterprises which do not fulfill their production plans for spare parts and produce low-quality parts at a high cost of production.

In 1953, 'avtraktoroprom enterprises failed to produce 140,000 cylinder liners for DT-54 tractors, 70,000 connecting-rod bushings, 7,000 crankshaft-bearing linings, 6,500 cylinder heads, 9,500 connecting rods, and many other parts.

The heads of many enterprises are asking for additional funds for new buildings and new equipment instead of taking steps to utilize the equipment and the space within the enterprises.

In 1953, an inspection of nine specialized plants of Glavtraktoroprom made by Gosplan USSR disclosed that, on the average, only 65 percent of production capacity was utilized. The Chkalov Avtozapchast' (Motor Vehicle Spare Parts) Plant and the Chkalov Plant imeni Kirov used only 56 percent of their production capacity, and the Voroshilovograd Plant imeni 20-let Oktyabrya used 60 percent of its production capacity. The flow of work in different shops of these plants is not coordinated. Because of insufficient production capacity of foundry shops, only

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60 percent of equipment is used in machine shops of the Chkalov Avtozapchast' Plant and the Voroshilovograd Plant. The output of the heat-treating shop and the foundry shop of the Saratov Serp i Molot Plant is sufficient to operate only 70 percent of the equipment of the machine shop.

The heads of enterprises are not doing enough to overcome the difference in output ratio between various shops. Because of small output capacity of heat-treating shops at the Novorossiysk Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant, the Chkalov Plant imeni Kirov, and others, it is impossible to use fully the equipment of machine shops at these plants. In addition, the heat-treating shops are still using obsolete methods and equipment, while new equipment is not used to its full capacity.

During recent years, specialized plants of Glavtraktroprom have organized constant-flow lines for mass production of spare parts. Because of poor planning, much of the highly productive equipment is idle a great deal of the time.

Below are the results of studies made on the use of equipment during the first 6 months of 1953:

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Equipment Utilization (%)</u>	
	<u>Constant-Flow Lines</u>	<u>Conventional Production Sections</u>
Samarkand Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant	46-55	24-52
Voroshilovograd Plant imeni 20-let Oktyabrya	17-77	29-42
Chkalov Avtozapchast' Plant	42-44	21-40
Saratov Serp i Molot Plant	51	21-48
Krasnodar Oktyabr' Plant	22-57	16-35

Conditions at plants which have such a large reserve of production capacity and still fail to fulfill their production plans cannot be tolerated. The Saratov Serp i Molot Plant fulfilled only 28 percent of its 1953 production plan for cam sleeves for STZ-NATI tractors, and 50 percent for oil-shaft pump gears for DT-54 tractors.

The Ministry of Machine Building USSR does not pay enough attention to the problem of unused production reserves at plants. The heads of Glavtraktroprom have not achieved systematic, timely deliveries of parts between plants.

In the first 6 months of 1953, machines at the Voroshilovograd Plant imeni 20-let Oktyabrya were idle more than 22,700 hours because of late deliveries by auxiliary plants. During the same period, the constant-flow line which produces part AO2-S2 was idle 7,900 hours.

During the first 6 months of 1953, the Stalingrad Tractor Plant delivered 4,000 rear-axle housings to the Voroshilovograd Plant instead of 6,000 as planned, and the Rubtsovsk Altay Tractor Plant delivered 12,000 gears instead of 15,000 as planned.

The Ministry of Machine Building USSR hinders plant activities by delaying technical documentation needed for planning and financing.

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The Kuybyshev Avtotraktorodetal' Plant, the Voroshilovograd Plant imeni 20-let Oktyabrya, and the Novorossiysk Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant so far have not received the necessary documentation and approved estimates.

The Novorossiysk Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant had to stop equipping two automatic lines for the production of piston pins because it had already used more funds than allotted.

Labor productivity is affected by unsatisfactory utilization of power equipment.

In 1953, labor productivity at the Voroshilovograd Plant 20-let Oktyabrya was 95 percent; at the Krasnodar Oktyabr' Plant, 77 percent; and at the Novorossiysk Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant, 95 percent.

A check showed that in 1953 the Voroshilovograd Plant 20-let Oktyabrya operated only 5 percent on calculated technical norms, and 95 percent on trial statistical norms; the Novorossiysk Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant observed only 15 percent of calculated technical norms; and the Samarkand Krasnyy Dvigatel' Plant observed only 9.4 percent of calculated technical norms.

Auxiliary tasks at enterprises of Glavtraktroprom are extremely poorly mechanized. At the Kuybyshev Avtotraktorodetal' Plant, deliveries of parts to machines is done by hand. At the Saratov Serp i Molot Plant, 75 percent of transport within the plant and between shops is handled manually.

Losses because of rejects are great. Rejected castings of some tractor parts at the Chkalov Avtozapchast' Plant exceeded 50 percent. During the first 7 months of 1953, rejections of all types of bushings produced by the Krasnodar Oktyabr' Plant amounted to 34 percent.

Poor planning by Glavtraktroprom enterprises is a serious handicap in utilizing production reserves and leads to lowering of production plans. For example, a machine at the Krasnodar Oktyabr' Plant with a 152,000-ruble gross production in 1952 has been assigned a schedule calling for a 146,500-ruble gross production in the 1953 plan.

Enterprises of Glavtraktroprom have sufficient reserves of production power to achieve a sharp increase in the output of spare parts, thus insuring an adequate supply for MTS and interrayon repair stations in their work of getting agricultural machines ready for a successful spring planting in 1954. -- S. Semin, Chief of Inspectorate, Gosplan USSR

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